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"The three requirements in combating plague are: (1) make accurate diagnoses; (2) discover the source of the outbreak; (3) study the extent of the epidemic.

"The epidemic was checked in half a month because of the wholehearted assistance rendered by the Chinese antiplague personnel. The public health committees, organized previously to meet any such eventuality, also helped a great deal.

"The efficient traffic control and quarantine of the plague areas also contributed considerably to checking the epidemic.

"The chemicals used for disinfecting were very effective. Our method is far superior to that used by the Japanese. The Japanese method, which prevents epidemic by burning the house occupied by the plague victim, not only is expensive but does not actually prevent epidemic since flea-bearing rats escape and continue to spread the disease.

"We recommend that you carry out the following procedure in combating plague: (1) administer preventive inoculation to all people within a 15-kilometer radius from the center of the plague outbreak; (2) report immediately all deaths occurring within the plague areas so that antiplague personnel can swiftly carry out necessary preventive work; (3) the Ministry of Public Health of the Central People's government should coordinate all work of the antiplague units in order to check the epidemic within 10 to 15 days; and (4) capture and destroy all flea-carrying animals, burn all grassy areas, clean-up wasteland where rats are likely to be.

"I believe the Central People's government is now fully equipped and ready to combat any future plague outbreak."

Dr Maiskiy reviewed his team's antiplague work in Northeast China this year.

CHECKS ANIMAL EPIDEMIC -- Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 8 Dec 49

Pei-p'ing, 25 November (NCNA) -- The animal epidemic which has ravaged more than 20 hsien in H'peh, P'ing-yuan, Suiyuan, and Shansi provinces, has been checked by the heroic action of veterinary personnel. The first outbreak occurred at the beginning of autumn 1949.

Many volunteers assisted various local veterinarian corps in antiplague work. The plague districts were quarantined and many preventive inoculations were administered. As a result, deaths of animals were cut to a minimum.

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